



# FEMA



Prepared by  
*Kurt M. Van Speybroeck*

# FEMA Region 6 Weather Threat Briefing

Thursday, March 21, 2019

**Disclaimer:** The purpose of this briefing is to provide a **Regional** weather threat assessment and is meant as a general overview. County/Parish decision makers should consult their local NWS forecast offices for the latest detailed, local weather information. To find your local NWS forecast office, go to [www.weather.gov/srh](http://www.weather.gov/srh).

# Summary of the Upcoming Week



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## Today

- **Marginal risk area for strong/severe thunderstorms across N NM.**

## Friday

- **Marginal risk area for strong/severe storms across NE NM into the TX/OK Panhandles.**

## Saturday - Monday

- **Isolated strong/severe storms possible across LA/E TX/S AR.**

## River Flooding

- **Moderate to major flooding will continue through March on the Mississippi River in E AR/E LA.**
  - **Significant impacts to shipping and industrial activities on the river, with numerous flooded roadways near the river.**
- **A few rivers in E TX and portions of AR/LA will remain in minor flood stage with minimal impacts.**

# FEMA Region 6 Threat Matrix

Mar 21, 2019 – Mar 25, 2019



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DAY / THREAT	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON
Severe Storms	N NM	NE NM TX/OK Panhandles	TX/OK	OK/TX	LA/ETX/S AR
Heavy Rain / Flash Flooding					
Winter Weather					
Fire Weather					
River Flooding	E AR/E LA	E AR/E LA	E AR/E LA	E AR/E LA	E AR/E LA

	No Weather Threats Expected
	Very Common – Happens Often
	Common – Happens Frequently
	Uncommon – A Few Times a Year
	Rare – Once Every 1-5 Years
	Very Rare – Once Every 5-10 Years

*\*Threat levels are based on FEMA Region 6 criteria.  
State or local threat level criteria may differ.\*  
For more details on the colors in the threat matrix refer to the last slide in this briefing.*

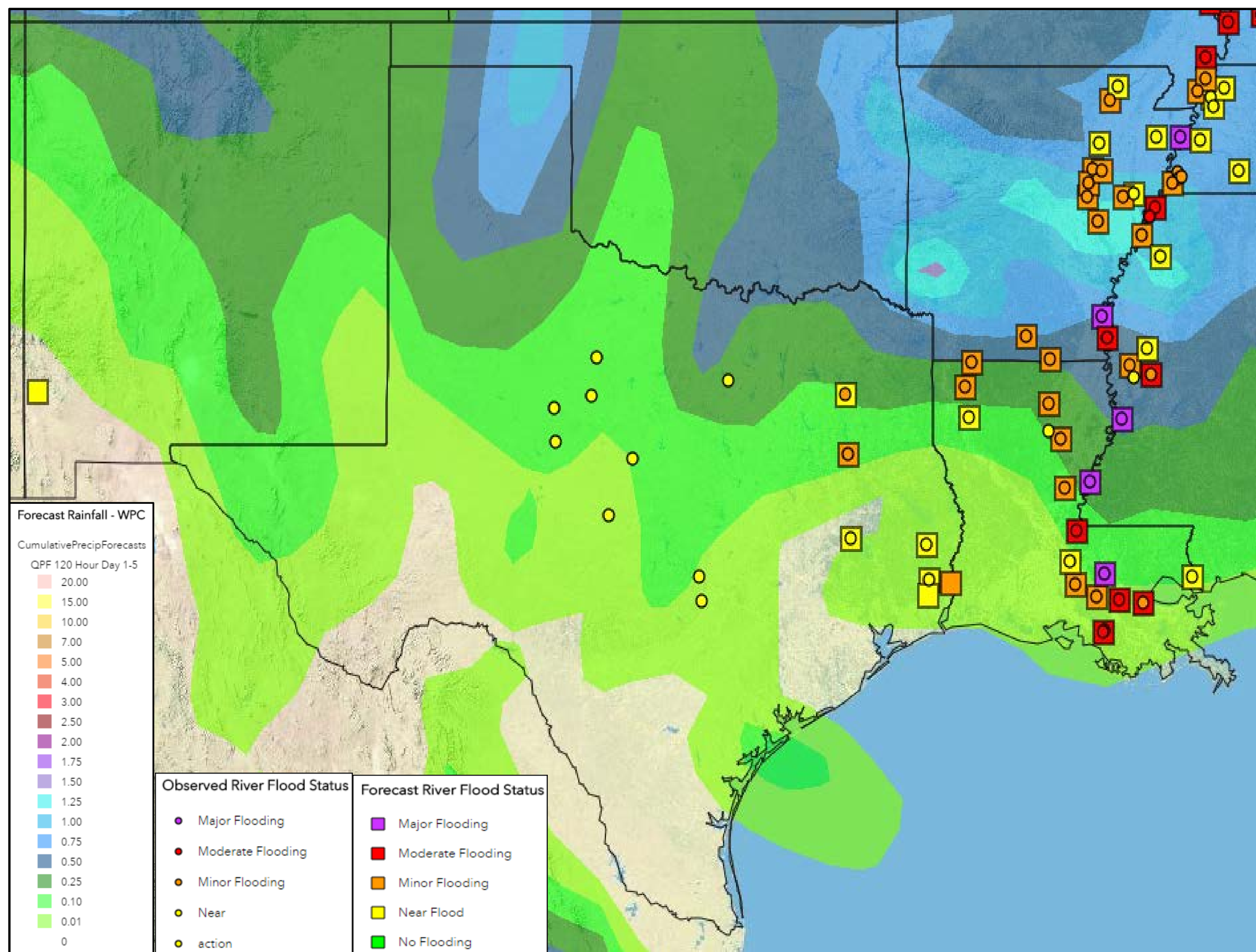


# 5-Day Precipitation Forecast & River Flood Status



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*Note: Even though the image displays 5 days of forecasted rainfall, river forecasts only include 1-2 days of rainfall*



**Moderate to Major flooding will continue through March on the Mississippi River in E AR/E LA.**

## Arkansas

- MS River is in moderate to major flood in eastern AR with flooded roads near the river.

## Louisiana

- MS River at Baton Rouge is at Major flood. Shipping and industrial activities are significantly affected.
- The Bonnet Carre Spillway is operating to reduce flow and maintain just under a 17.0ft stage at New Orleans. No significant impacts are noted.

**A few rivers in AR/LA and E TX are in minor flood stage with no impacts.**

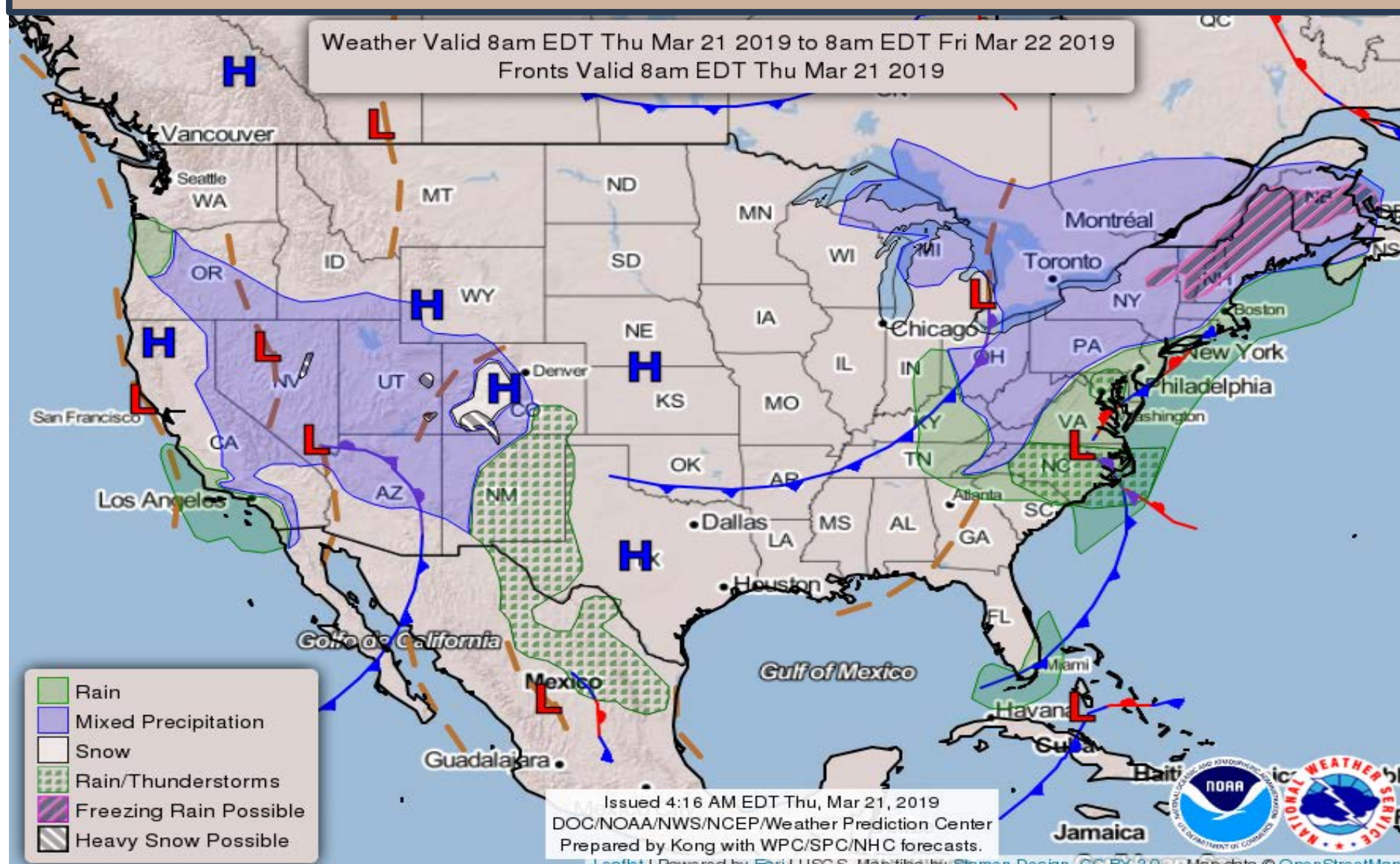


# Today's Weather

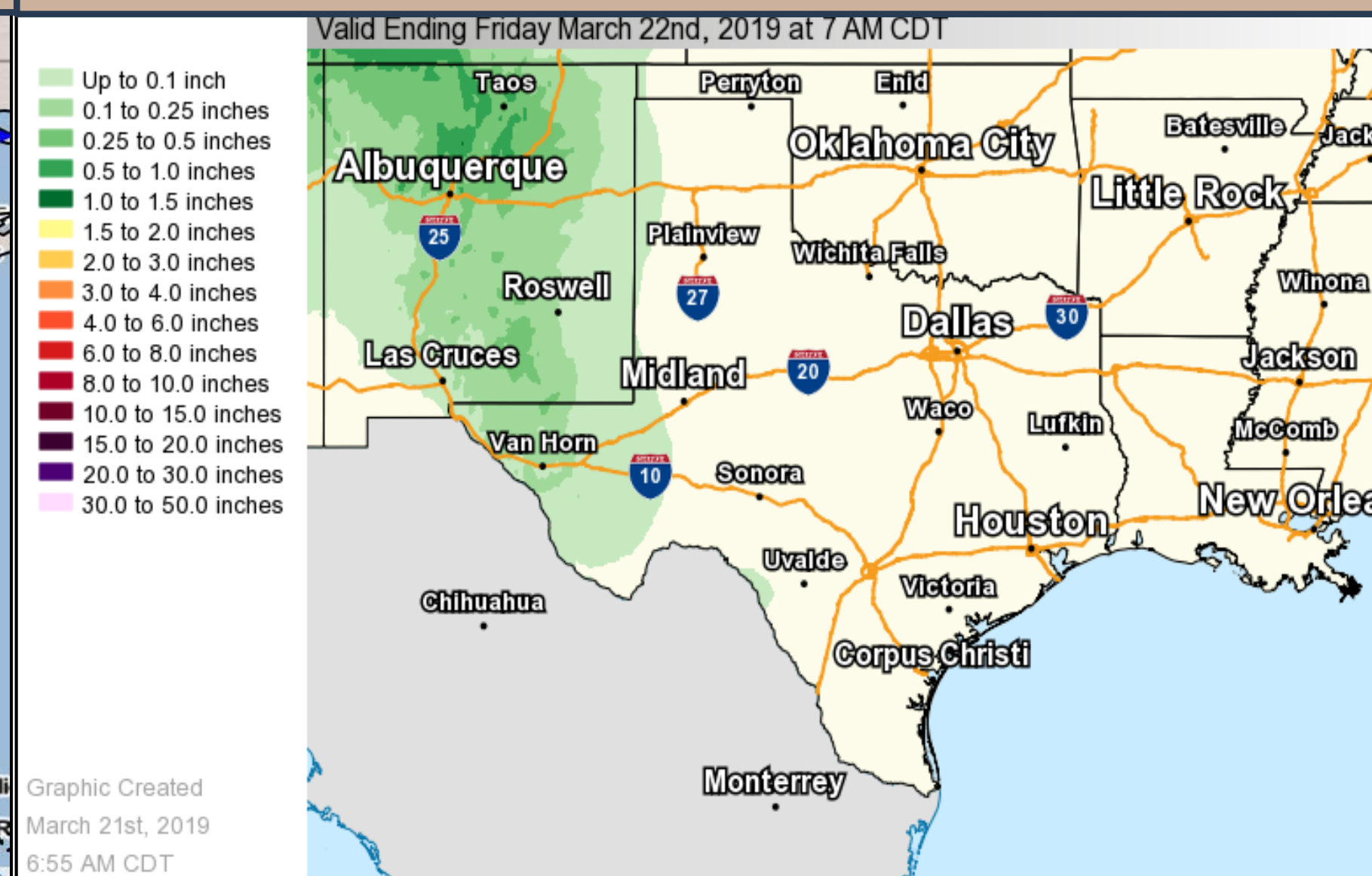


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# Forecast Chart

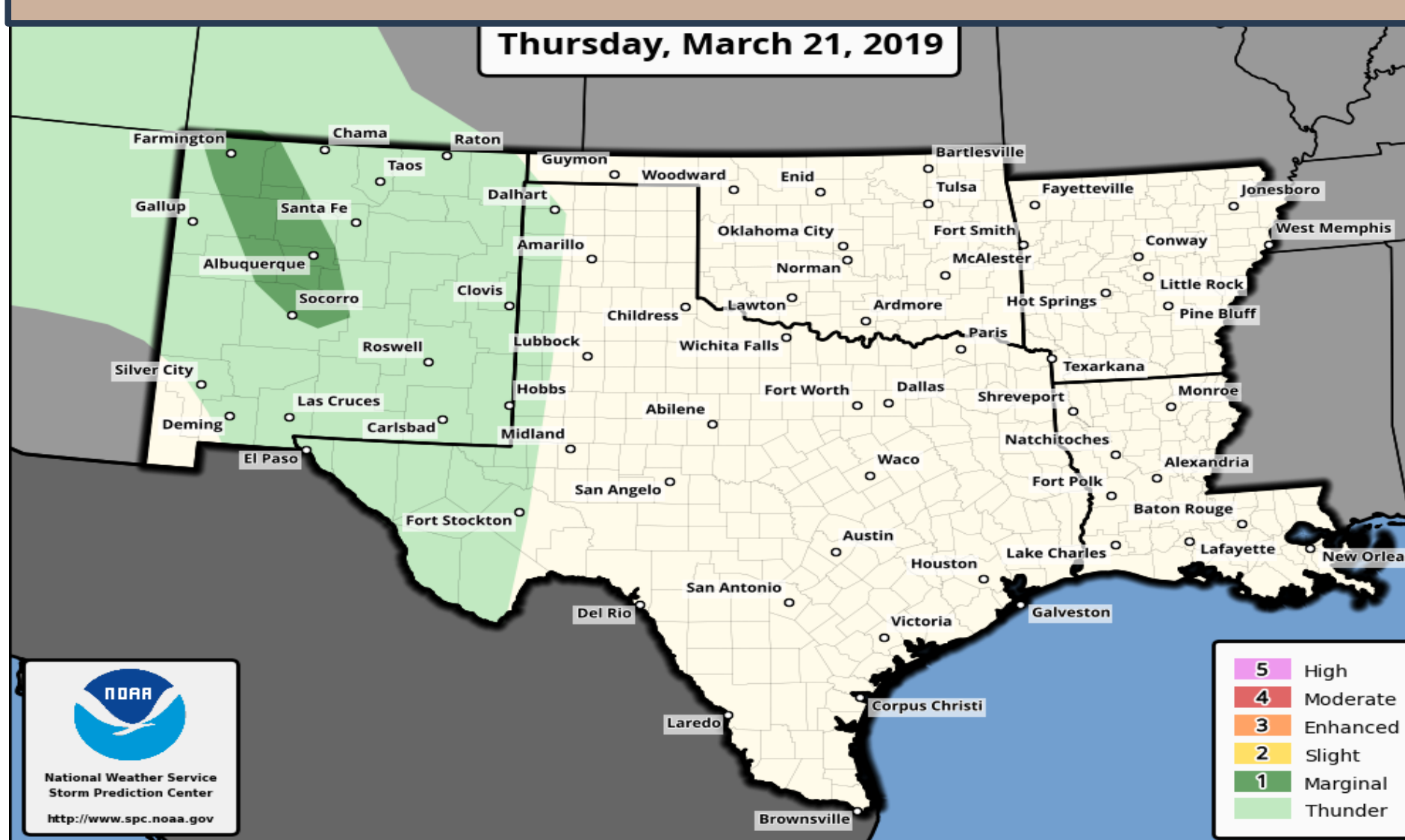


# Forecast Rainfall

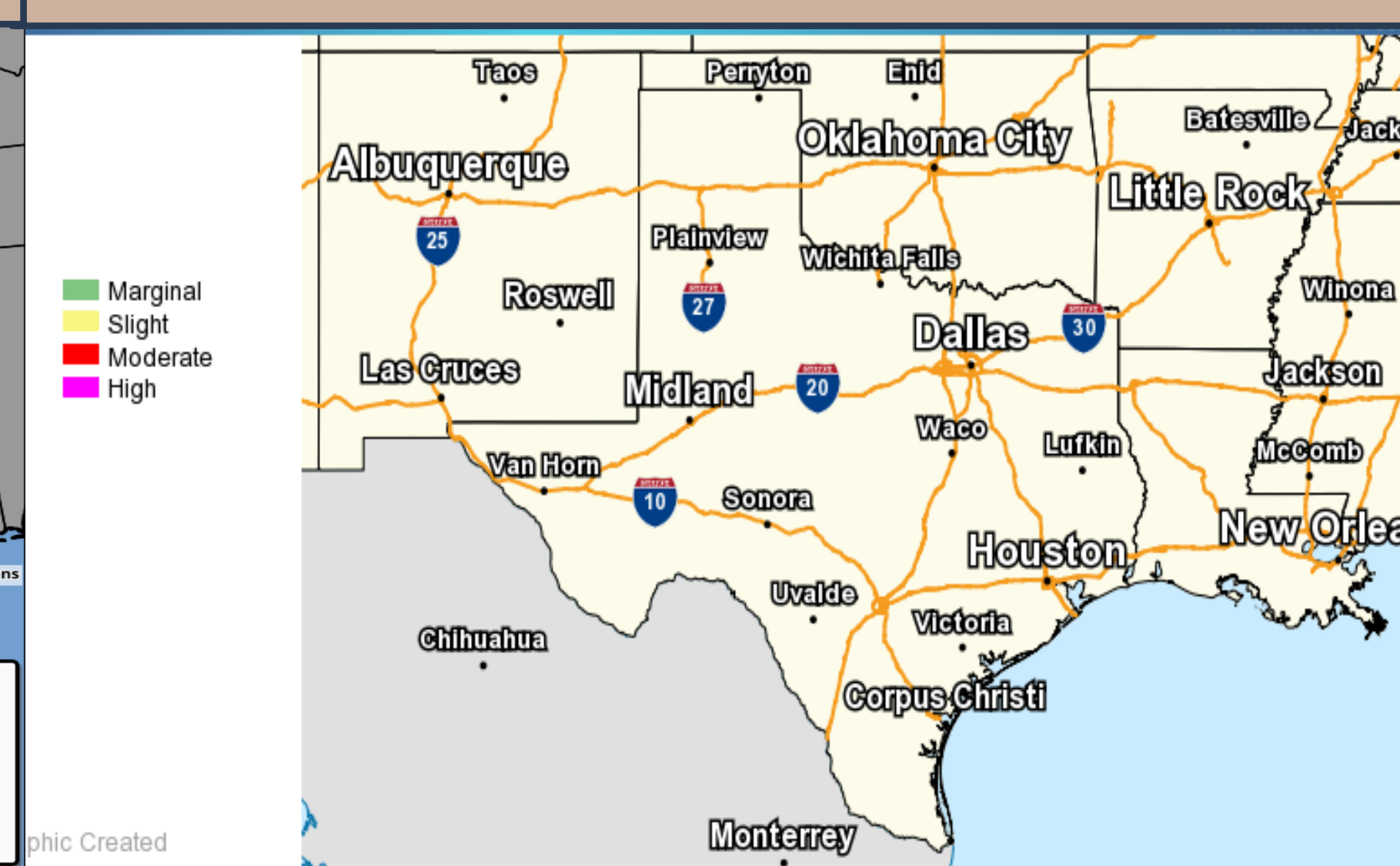


**Marginal risk area for  
strong/severe thunderstorms  
across N NM.**

# Severe Weather Outlook



## Excessive Rainfall Outlook





# Tomorrow's Weather

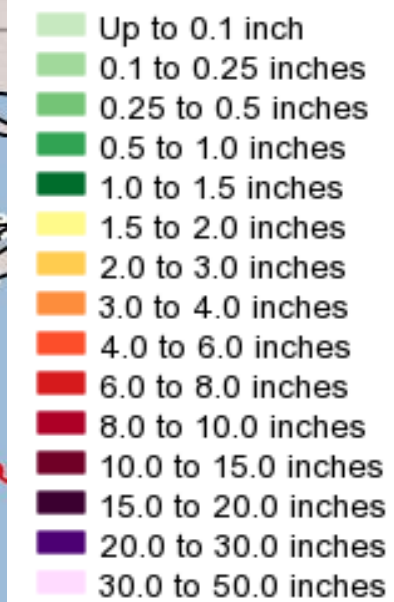
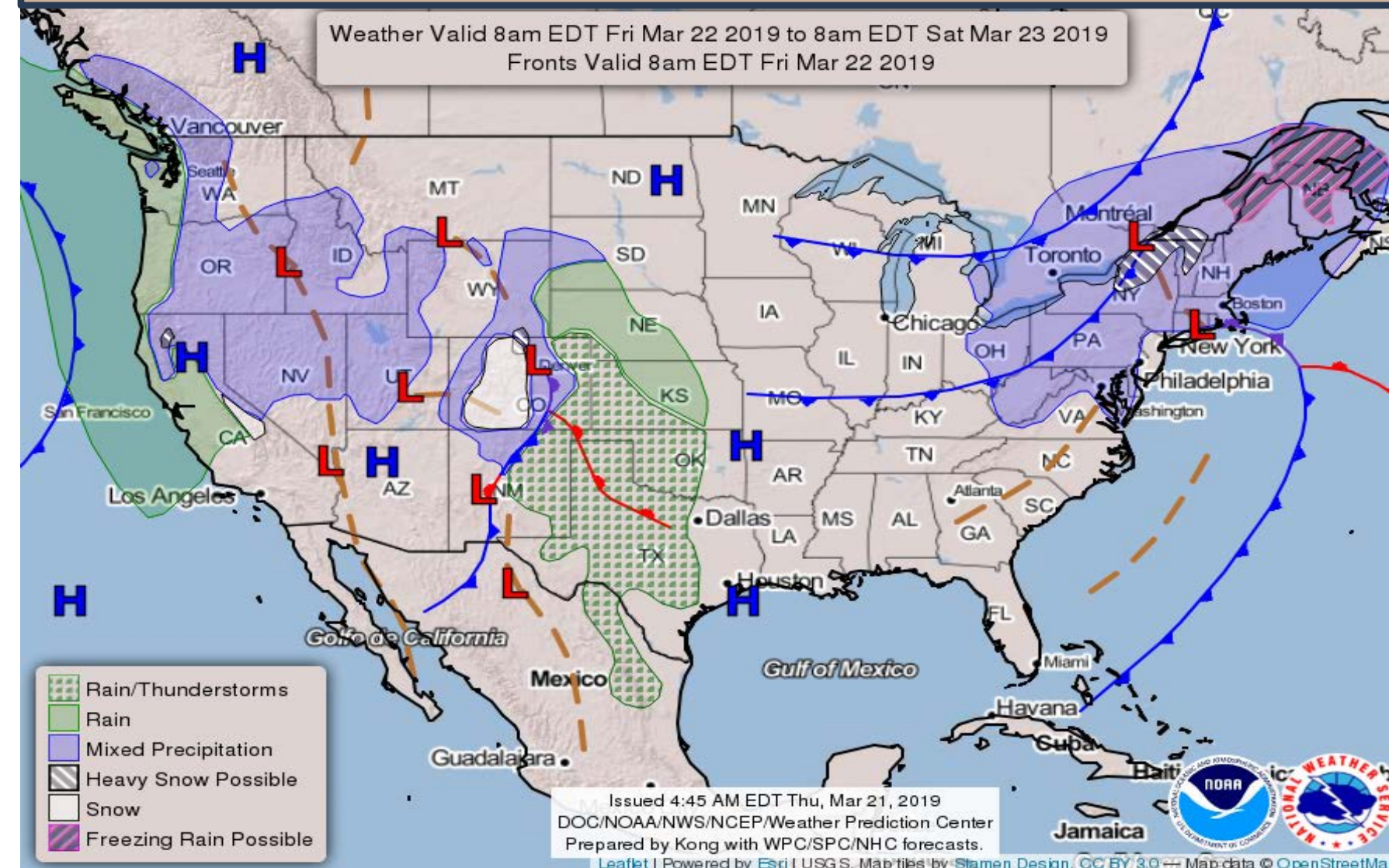


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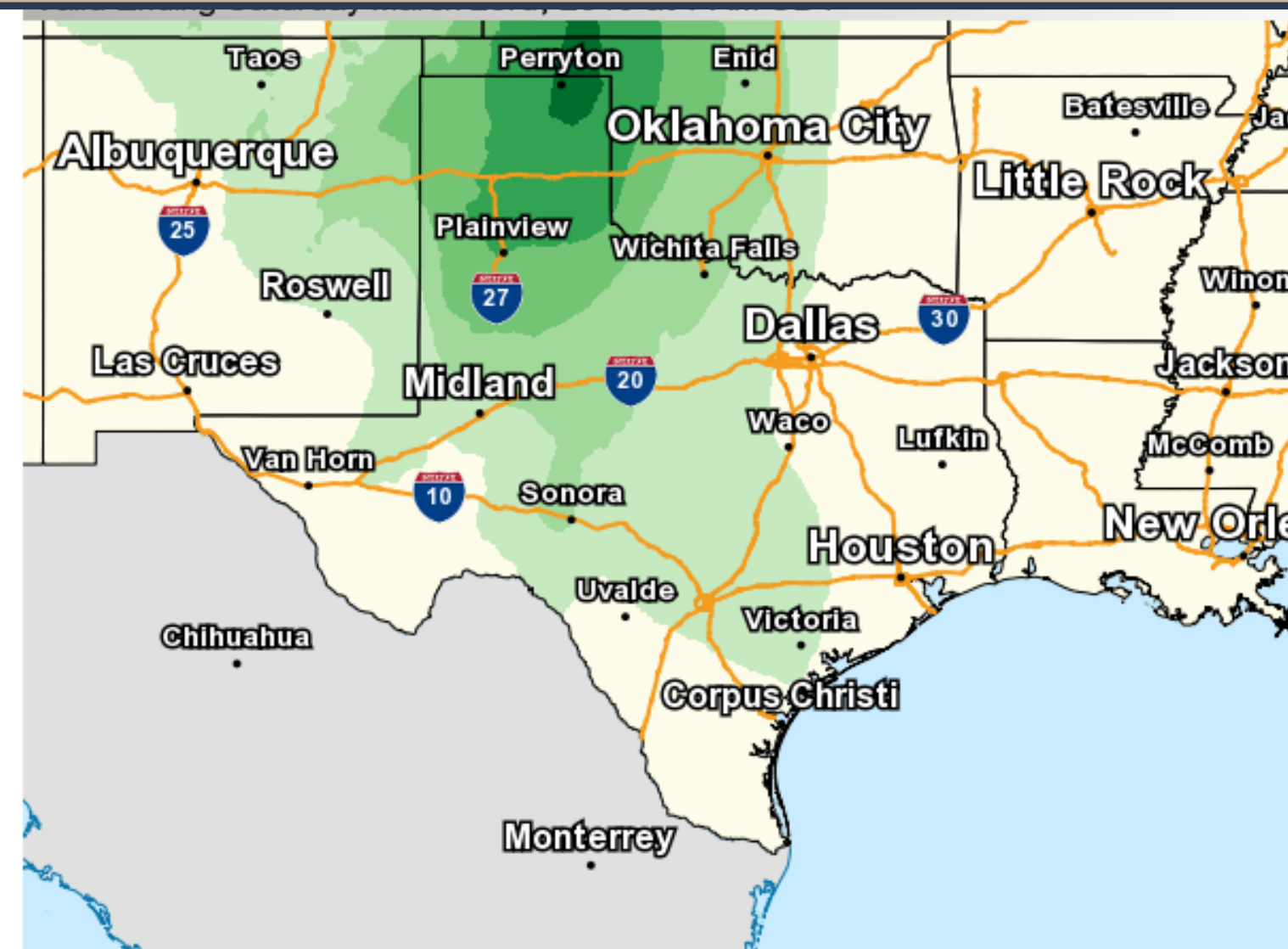
## Forecast Chart

## Forecast Rainfall

**Marginal risk area for  
strong/severe  
thunderstorms across NE  
NM into the TX/OK  
Panhandles.**

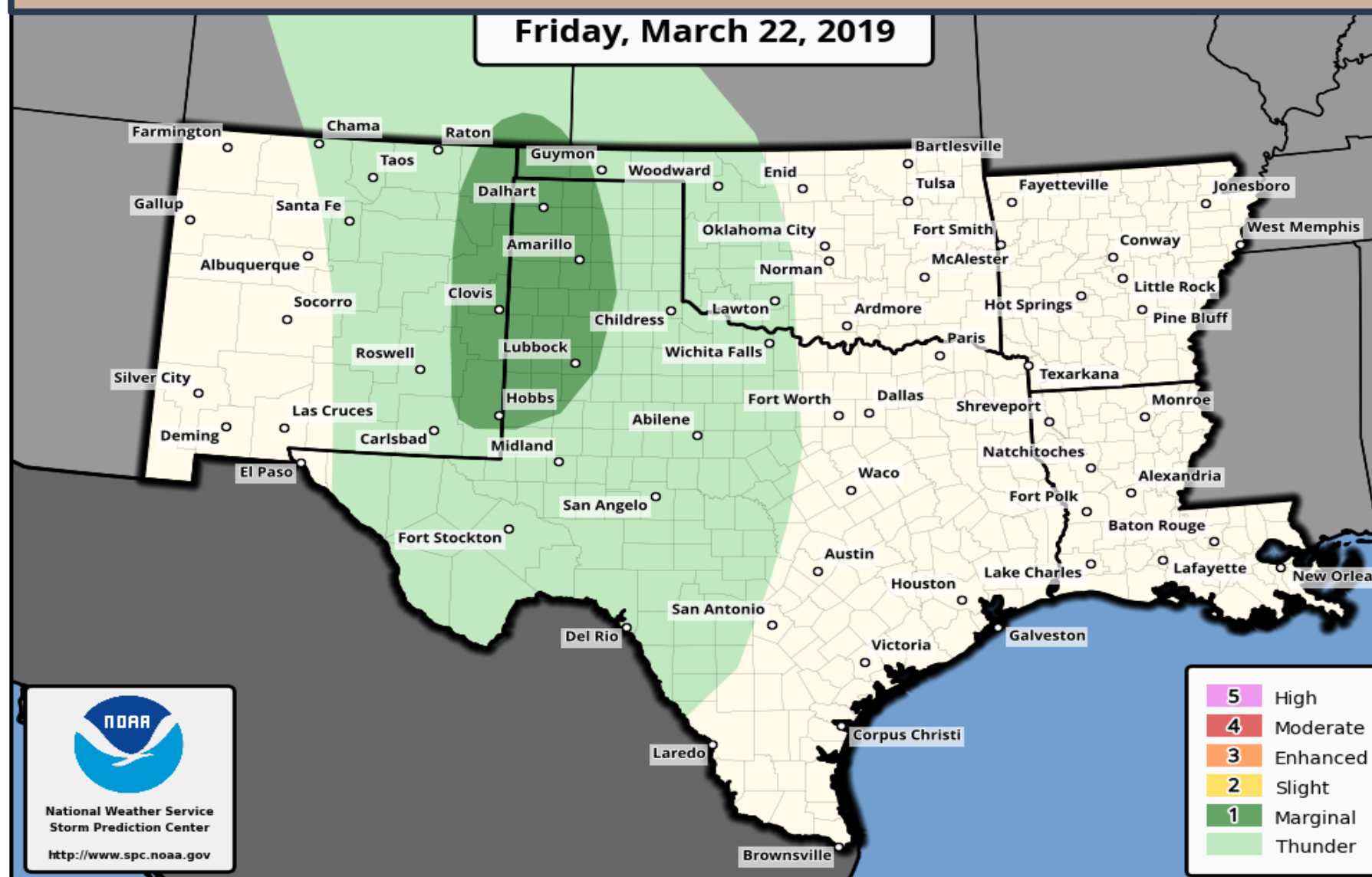


Graphic Created  
March 21st, 2019  
6:57 AM CDT

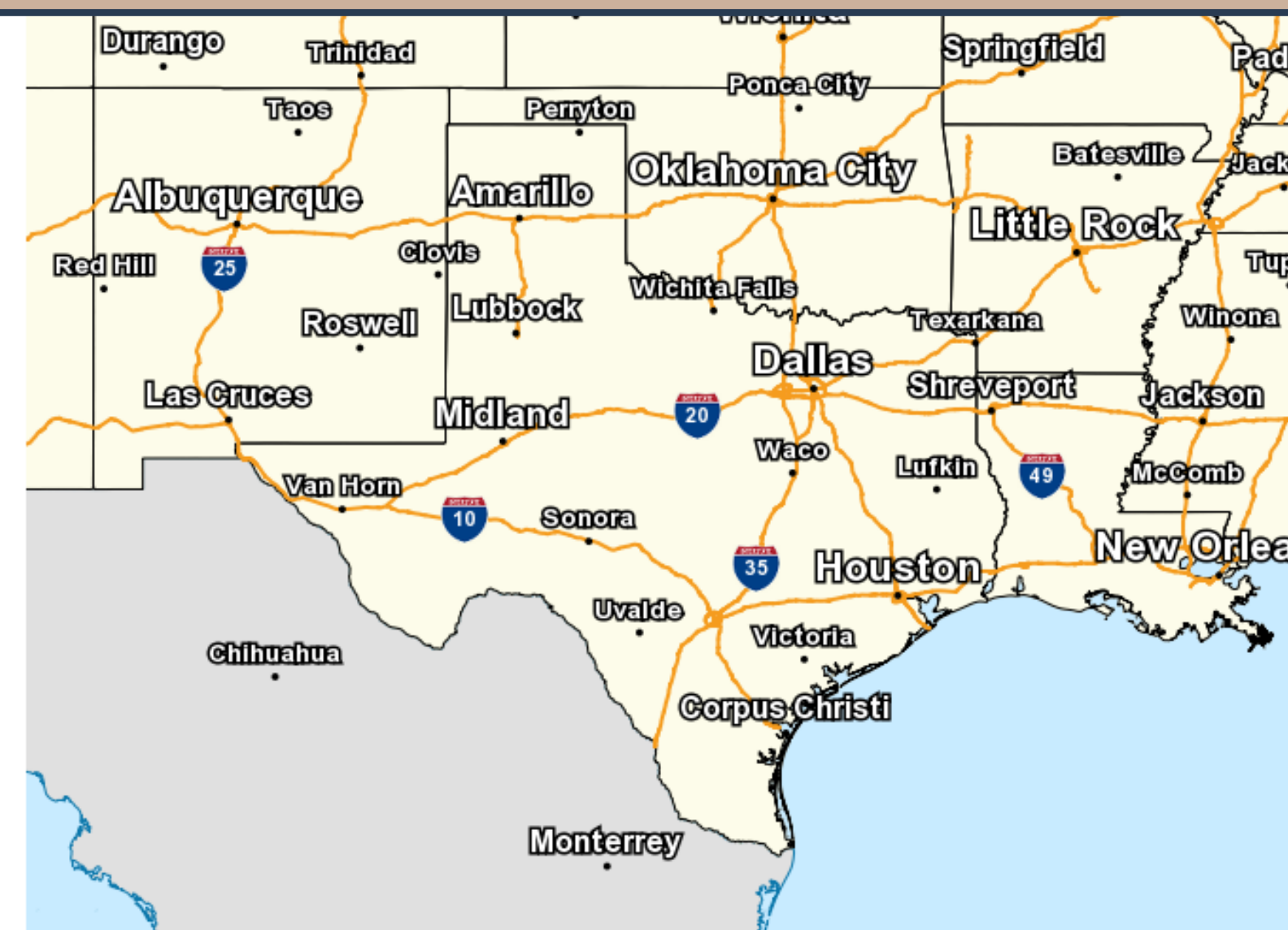


## Severe Weather Outlook

## Excessive Rainfall Outlook



Graphic Created  
March 21st, 2019  
6:57 AM CDT





# Saturday's Weather

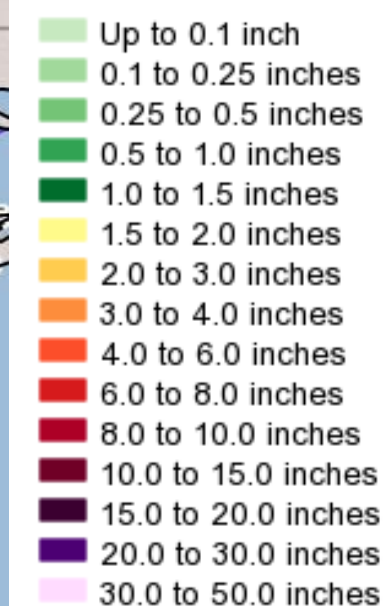
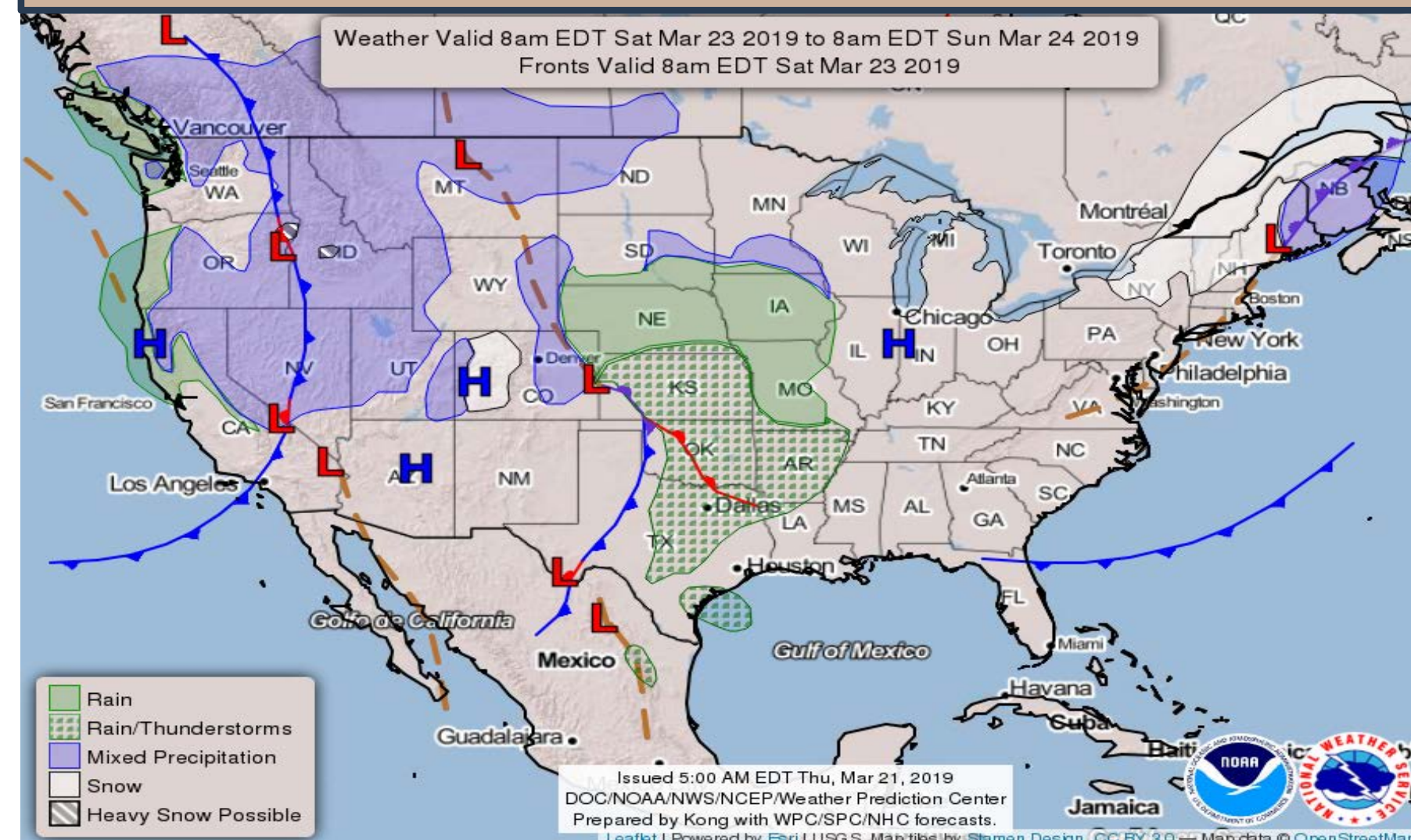


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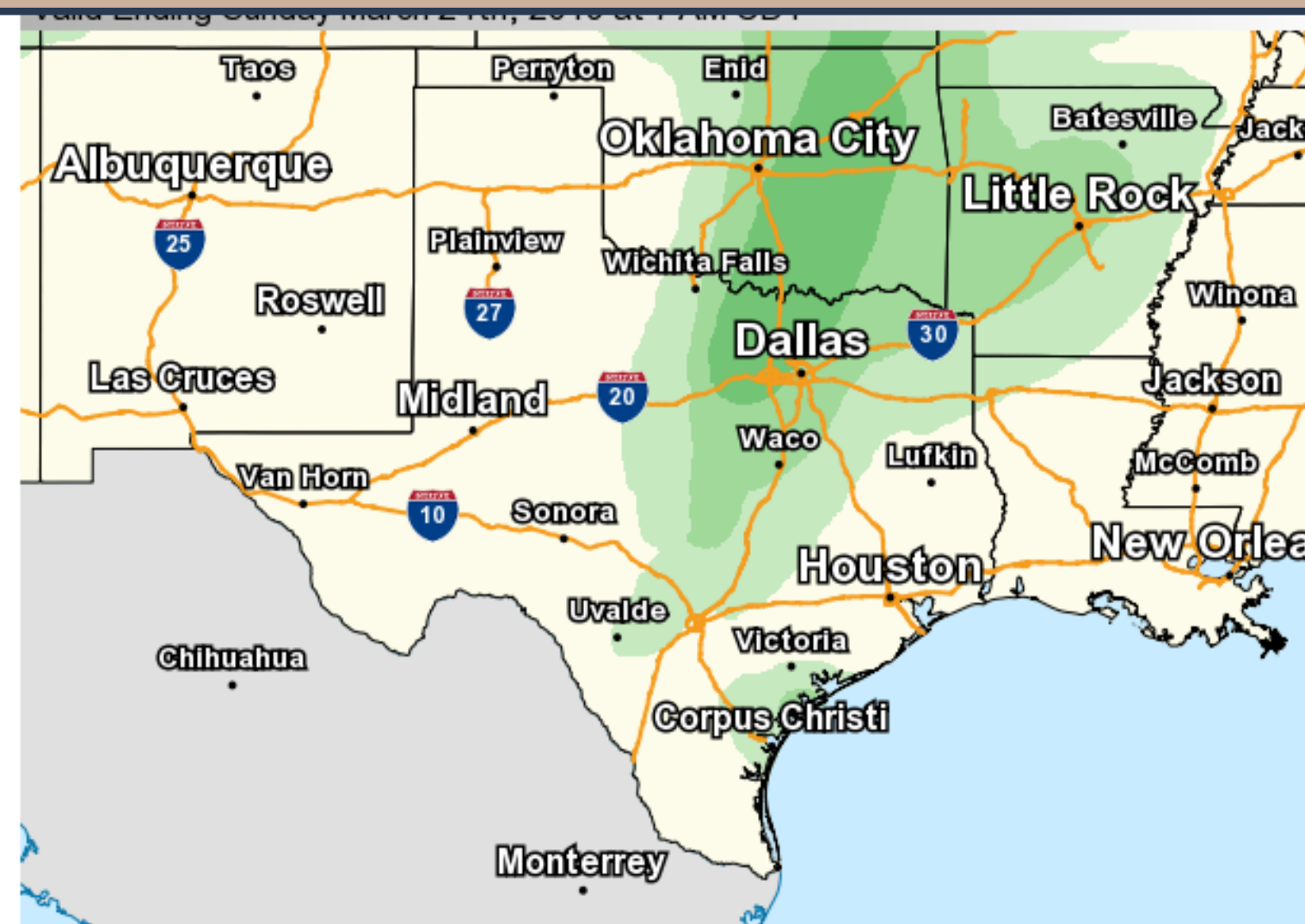
## Forecast Chart

## Forecast Rainfall

Isolated strong/severe  
storms across OK into N  
TX.

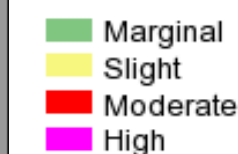
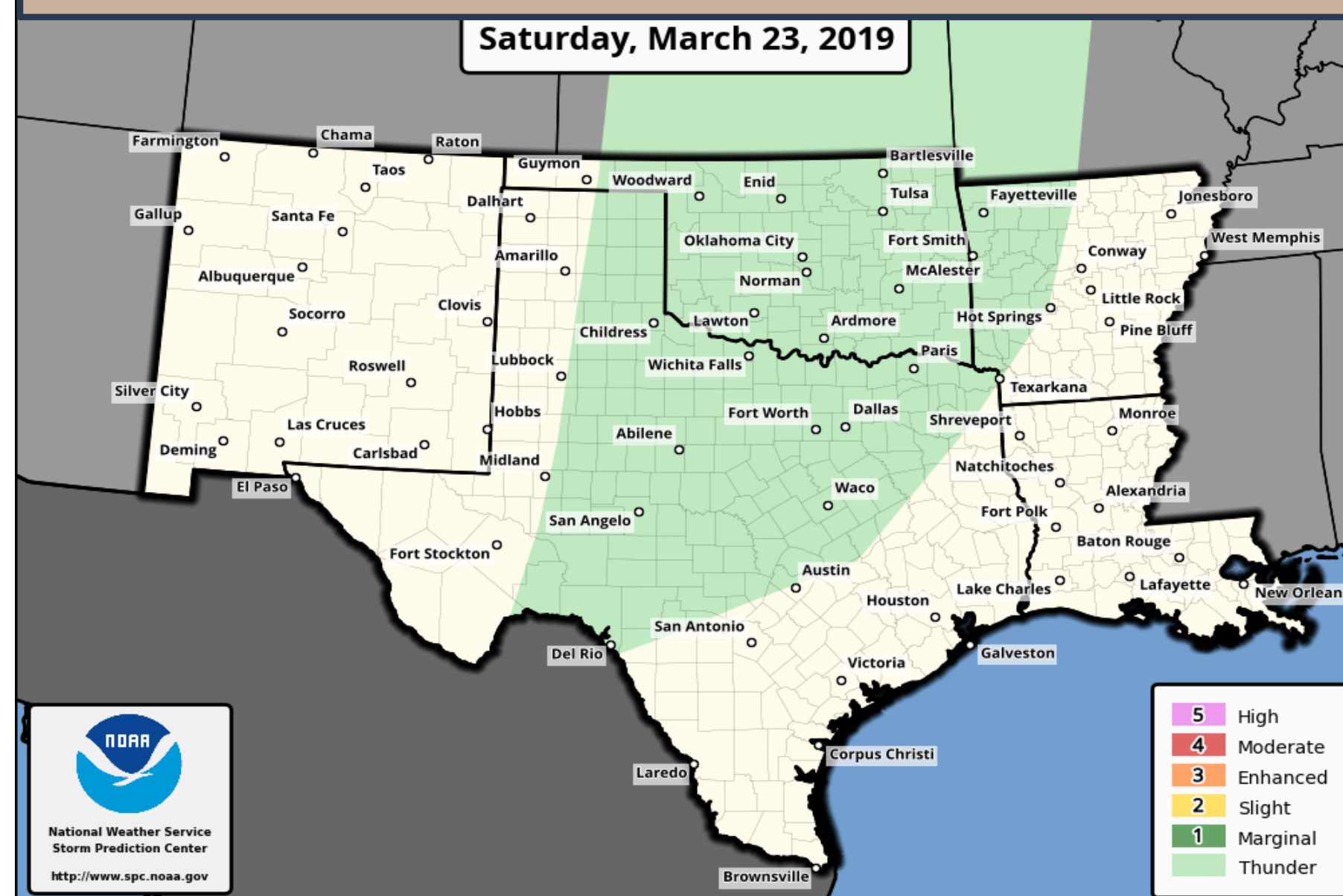


Graphic Created  
March 21st, 2019



## Severe Weather Outlook

## Excessive Rainfall Outlook



Graphic Created  
March 21st, 2019  
11 AM CDT



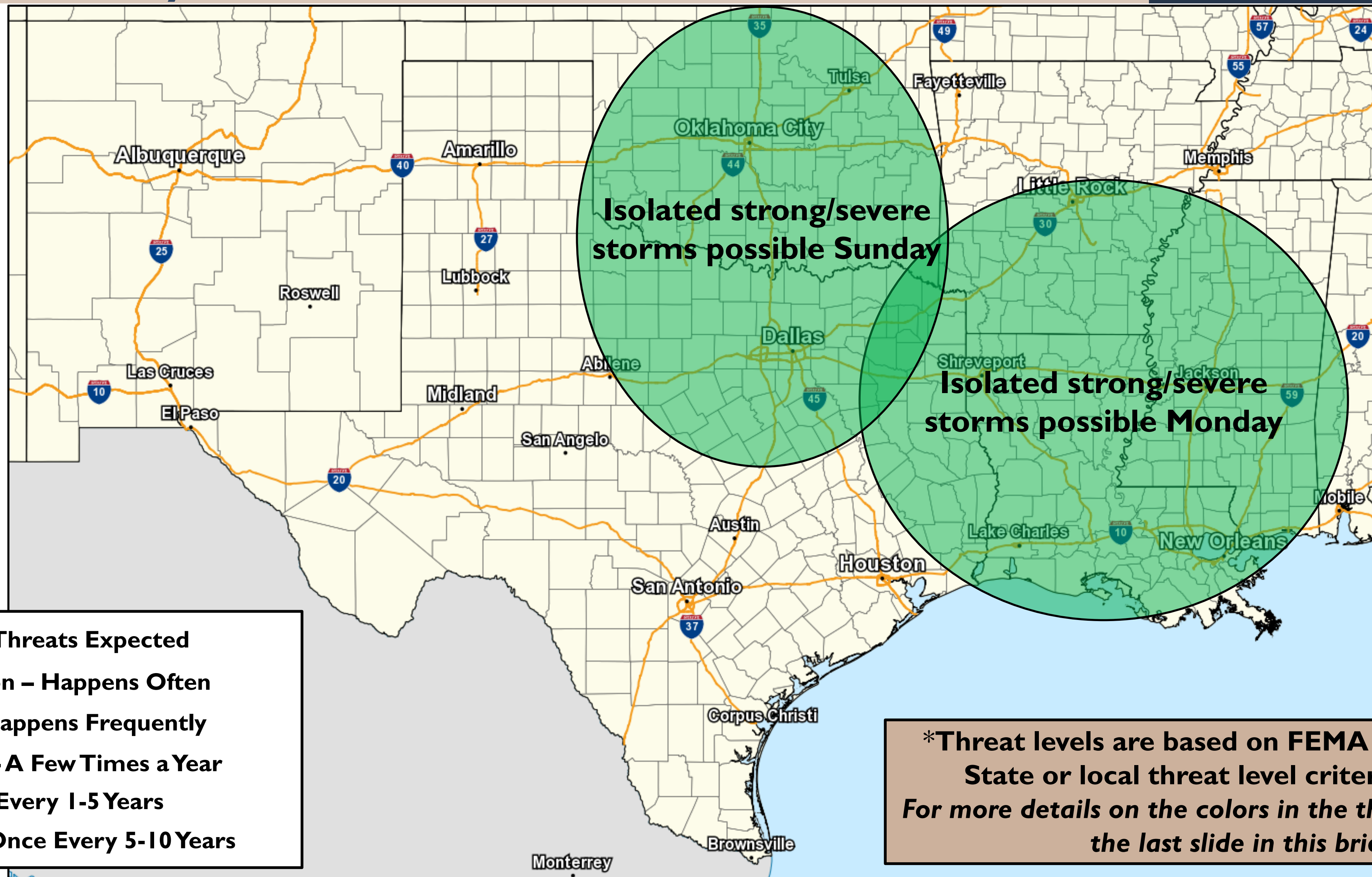


# Days 4-5 Weather Hazards

Sunday - Monday



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*For more details on the colors in the threat matrix refer to the last slide in this briefing.*



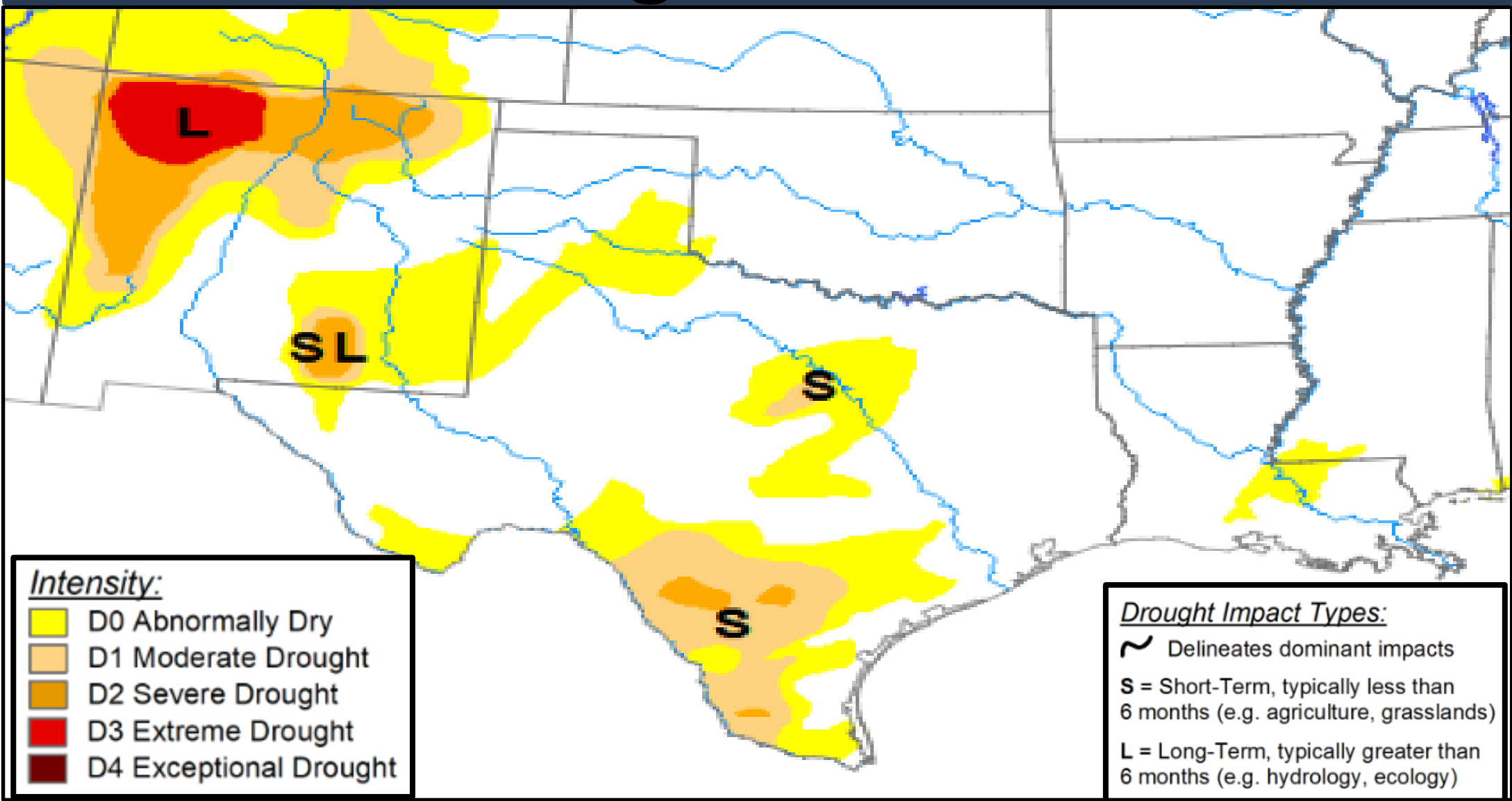
# Drought Monitor (Released March 21, 2019)



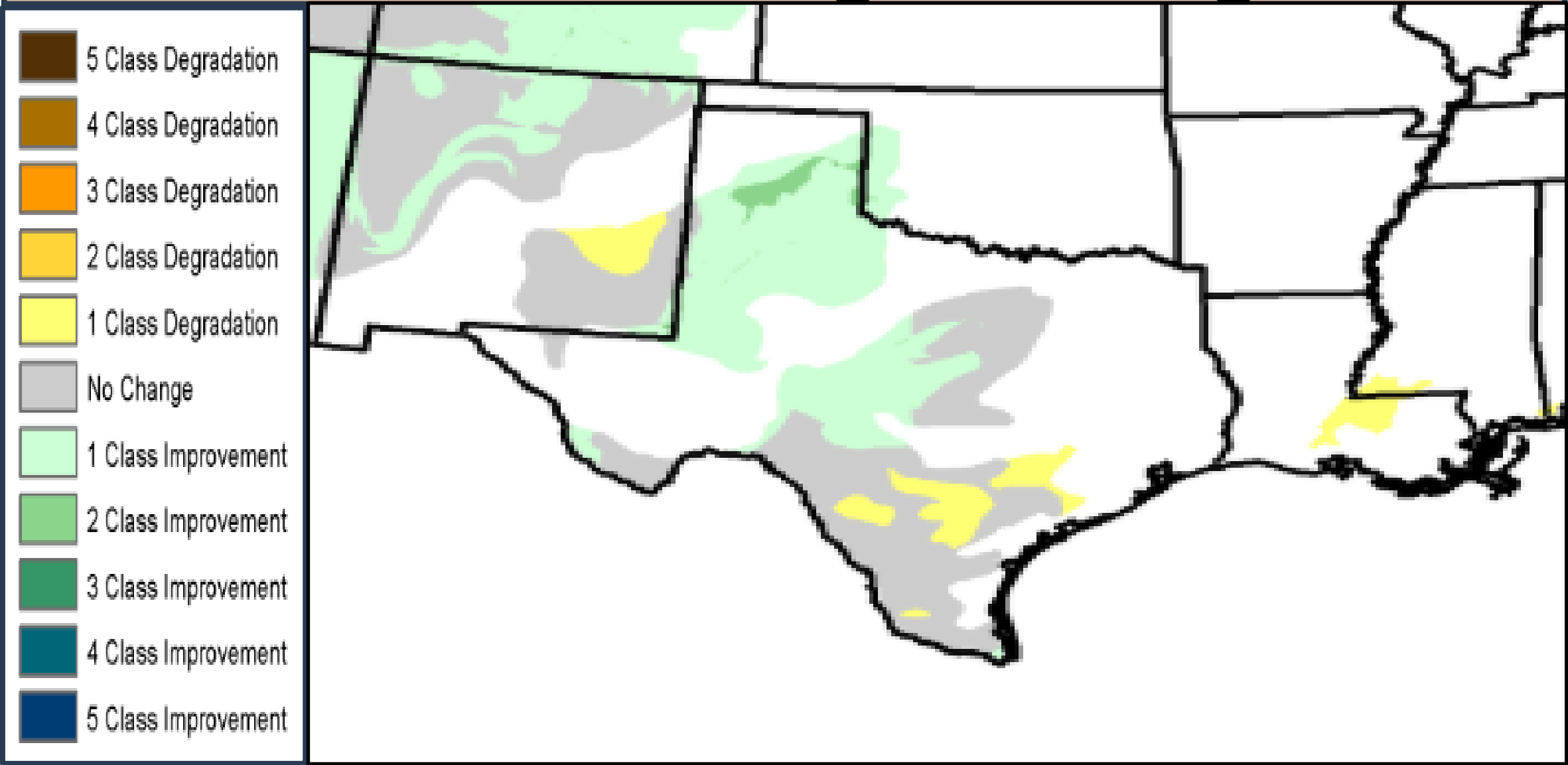
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Data valid as of 7am EST, Tuesday, March 19, 2019

## Drought Monitor



## One Week Change in Drought



Drought Conditions (Percent Area) in D3-D4 (Extreme to Exceptional Drought)				
State	Current	Last Week	3 Months Ago	1 Year Ago
Arkansas	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Louisiana	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
New Mexico	8.10%	12.50%	19.89%	25.60%
Oklahoma	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	34.93%
Texas	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	15.08%

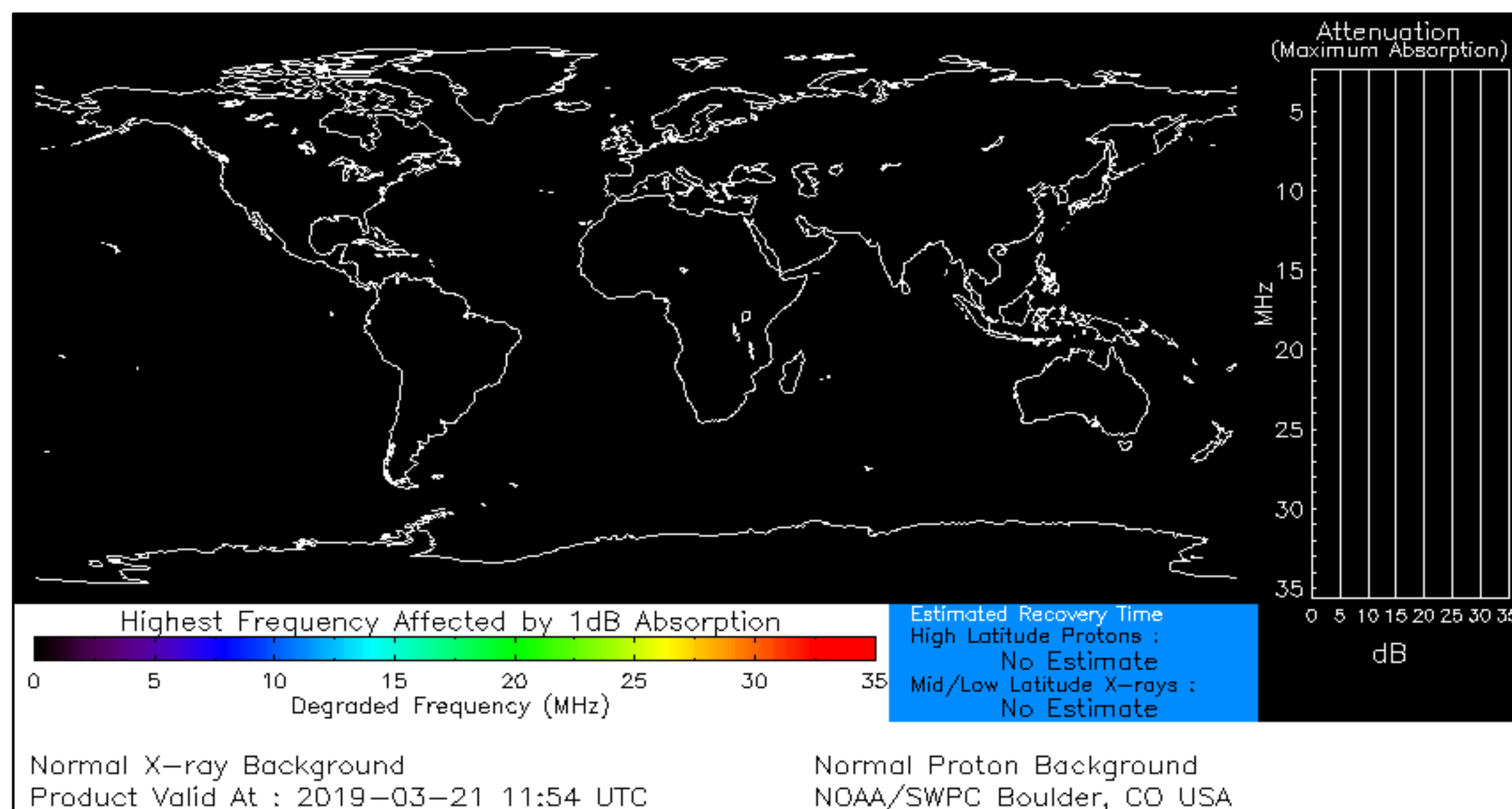


# Space Weather 3-Day Forecast



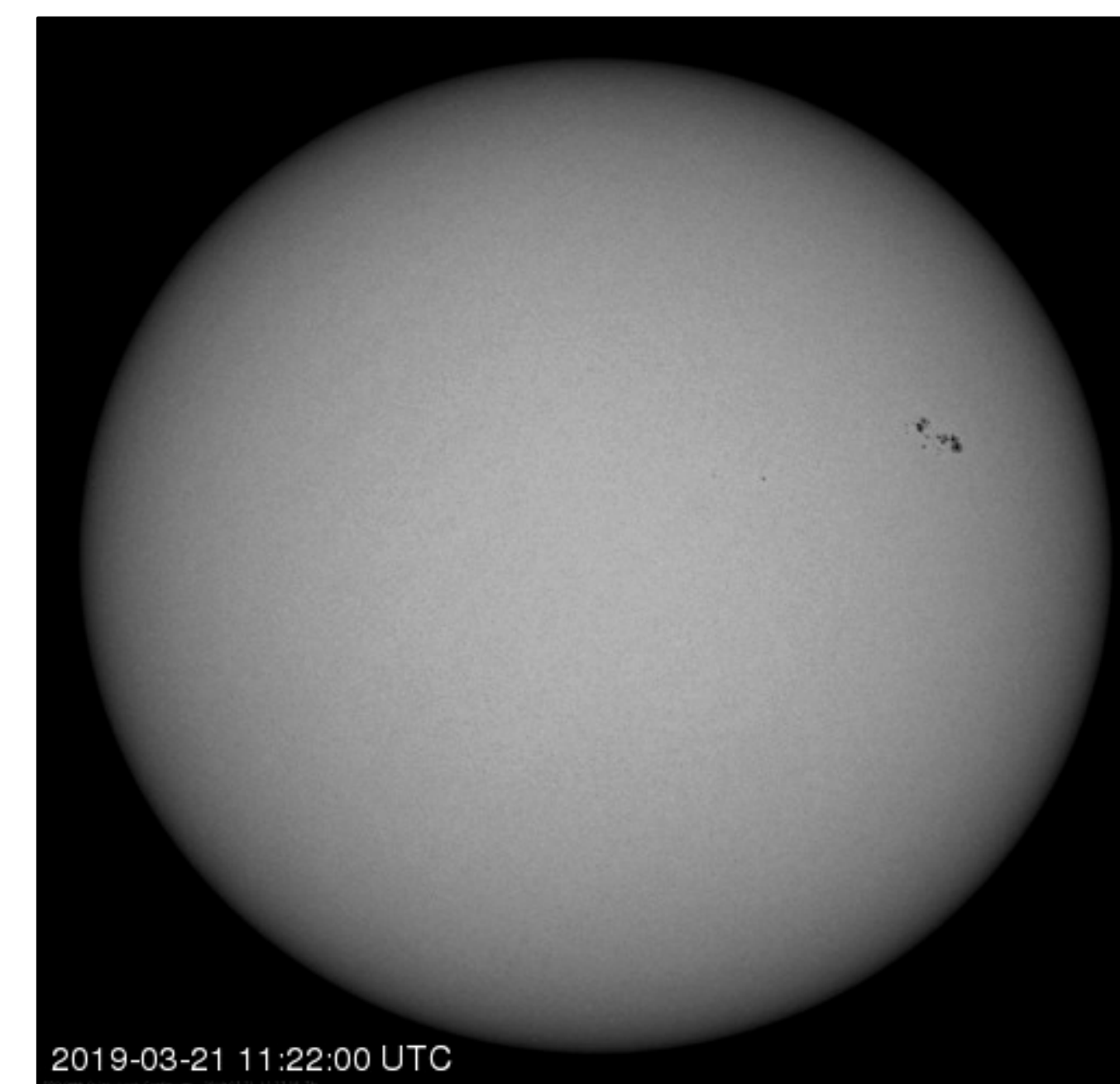
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	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Geomagnetic Storms	Quiet (Max Kp = 2)	Quiet (Max Kp = 2)	Moderate (G2) Storm (Max Kp = 6)
Solar Radiation Storm (S1-S5)	1%	1%	1%
Radio Blackout (R1-R2)	15%	15%	15%
Radio Blackout (R3-R5)	1%	1%	1%



[Click here for a Description of the Space Weather Storm Scales](#)

[Click here for the Latest 3-Day Space Weather Forecast Text](#)







# For more information, please contact:

**National Weather Service**  
**Southern Region Headquarters**  
**Regional Operations Center**  
**Fort Worth, TX**

Phone: (682) 703-3747

E-mail: [sr-srh.roc@noaa.gov](mailto:sr-srh.roc@noaa.gov)

Web: <http://www.weather.gov/srh>





Weather “Threat” Matrix			
Color	Definition	Criteria	Example(s)
Green	<b>Very Common</b> Safety: Rarely a Direct Threat to Life and Property Impact Potential: Typically Results in Little Inconvenience to Daily Routines	Severe: Marginal Risk from SPC Flooding: Minor flooding expected over localized areas Tropical: None Fire Weather: No Watches/Warnings, fuel moisture above 10% or green up active	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Thunderstorms expected over LA this afternoon; a few may produce winds to knock down a few trees</li> <li>Something that happens almost every day in a particular season such as <u>seabreeze</u> storms in coastal TX</li> </ul>
Yellow	<b>Somewhat Common – Happens Frequently</b> Safety: Rarely a Direct Threat to Life and Property Impact Potential: Typically Results in Some Inconvenience to Daily Life	Severe: Slight Risk from SPC Flooding: Nuisance flooded expected for a widespread area, or Minor flooding expected over isolated areas Tropical: A weak tropical wave expected to move towards or near any coastline Fire Weather: Red Flag Watches/Warnings and/or SPC outlines enhanced or critical fire outlook	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2-3 inches of rainfall expected over central AR today and tonight; some minor (brief) street flooding possible</li> <li>Scattered severe storms possible, one or two tornadoes expected, along with reports of strong winds/wind damage and ~1” hail</li> </ul>
Orange	<b>Uncommon – A Few Times a Year</b> Safety: Often Threatening to Life and Property, Some Damage Unavoidable Impact Potential: Typically Results in Minor Disruption to Daily Life	Severe: Enhanced Risk from SPC Flooding: Minor flooding expected over a widespread area (including urban locations), or Moderate flooding expected over isolated areas Tropical: A Tropical Storm expected to move towards or near any coastline Fire: Critical fire outlook for more than 2 consecutive days, Warnings for 2 or more consecutive days, D3-D4 drought conditions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A snow/sleet mix is expected to move through or near the DFW area tomorrow morning; travel impacts likely</li> <li>Numerous severe storms possible, a few tornadoes possible along with several reports of wind damage along with damaging hail</li> <li>Some large fires reported, burn bans advertised, critical conditions expected</li> </ul>
Red	<b>Rare – Once every 1-5 Years</b> Safety: Extensive Property Damage Likely, Life Saving Actions Also will be Needed Impact Potential: Will likely result in Large Disruption to Daily Life	Severe: Moderate Risk from SPC Flooding: Moderate flooding expected over a widespread area (including urban locations) Tropical: A Hurricane expected to move towards or near any coastline Fire: Large areas of critical conditions for 2 or more days, Warnings for 3 or more days, Severe to extreme drought	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A Category 1 hurricane will be moving towards the NW Gulf in the next few days</li> <li>Widespread severe storms likely, strong tornadoes, widespread wind damage, and destructive hail</li> <li>Large fires ongoing throughout the area with critical fire weather conditions expected to continue</li> </ul>
Purple	<b>Very Rare – Once Every 5-10 Years</b> Safety: Property Damage Unavoidable, Immediate Action to Save Life will be Needed Impact Potential: Typically Results in Long-Lived Widespread Major Disruption to Daily Life	Severe: High Risk from SPC Flooding: Major flooding expected over a widespread area (including urban locations) Tropical: A Major Hurricane (Cat3 or greater) expected to move towards or near any coastline Fire: Large area of critical conditions for 2 or more days, Warnings for 3 or more days, Long term (months) of severe to extreme drought	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A Category 4 hurricane is headed towards the SE LA; major storm surge, flooding and damaging winds anticipated to begin tomorrow</li> <li>Widespread severe storms expected, tornado outbreak probable with long-lived, very widespread and particularly intense storms</li> </ul>

**Criteria for the color codes in this briefing is to the left, please provide any feedback to**

**[sr-srh.roc@noaa.gov](mailto:sr-srh.roc@noaa.gov)**